

**Remarks/Arguments**

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By the present amendment claim 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 16, and 19-22 have been amended. Claim 3 has been canceled.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner indicated that claims 3-9, 18, 19, and 21 would be allowable if rewritten 1) to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, and 2) in independent form. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 3. Claims 8 and 19 have been rewritten in independent form. Since it is believed that amended claims 1, 8, and 19 are compliant with 35 U.S.C. §112, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1, 8, and 19 are allowable.

**Objections**

The specification was objected to for failing to provide section headings. The specification, however, was amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed June 14, 2006 to provide section headings and, thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 3 has been canceled and, thus, the rejection of claim 3 is moot. Claims 1, 11, 16, and 19-22 were rejected because the recitation of preferably in claim 1, the phrase "or similar" in claims 11, 16, 19, and 20, and the phrase "e.g." in claims 21-22 were deemed indefinite. Claims 1, 11, 16, and 19-22 have been

amended to remove these recitations and, thus, it is believed that claims 1, 11, 16, and 19-22 are definite.

Furthermore, claim 15 was rejected for failing to provide antecedent basis for the recitation of the piston means and the sleeve. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 14 to provide antecedent basis for all elements in claim 15. For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2 and 4-22 are definite and, thus, the rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-22 under 35 U.S.C. §112 has been overcome.

*Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102*

Claims 1, 10-15, 17, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,435,527 to Arpin. As noted, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3 and, thus, amended claim 1 is allowable. Claims 10-15, 17, and 20 depend from claim 1 and are likewise believed to be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 10-15, 17, and 20 has been overcome.

*Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103*

Claims 2 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Arpin in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0125271 to Zeitlin. Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Arpin. As noted, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 3 and, thus, amended claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2, 16, and 22 depend from claim 1 and are likewise believed to be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 2, 16, and 22 has been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this matter to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

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